Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 PM-05 L-03 H-01 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /046 W

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R 030934Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9509

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT PL

SUBJ: WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE COMMENTS ON AMNESTY

- 1. ON JULY 29, THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE, JACEK KURON, RELEASED A STATEMENT DATED JULY 25 WHICH PRAISED "GIEREK'S INITIATIVE" IN RELEASING WORKERS AND WDC SUPPORTERS JAILED FOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE JUNE, 1976, PRICE-RISE DISTURBANCES. THE STATEMENT CALLED THE RELEASE A STEP TOWARD CREATING THE INDISPENSABLE CONDITIONS FOR NORMALIZATION IN POLAND.
- 2. THE STATEMENT ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE AMNESTY WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY MOVES TO: (A) GUARANTEE THE OBSERVANCE OF LAW AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE; (B) ELIMINATE ILLEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPRISALS; (C) CURTAIL THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECRET POLICE; (D) STOP SUPPRESSION OF WORKERS AND OPPOSITION MOVEMENTS: AND, (F) FACILITATE DISCUSSION WITHIN POLISH SOCIETY.

3. THE STATMENTS CONCLUDE THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WDC, AT ONE POINT TERMED "SOCIAL SELF-GOVERNMENT", WILL DEPEND ON HOW THE AUTHORITIES HANDLE THE ABOVE ISSUES "IN THE NEAR FUTURE."

4. A WESTERN CORRESPONDENT TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THE WDC HAS SHOWN INCREASED RESPECT FOR THE SENSIBILITIES OF THE AUTHORITIES SINCE THE AMNESTY. IN ADDITION TO THE MODERATE TONE OF ITS STATEMENTS, THE WDC HAS ADOPTED THE POLISH EPISCOPATE'S PRACTICE OF DELAYING RELEASE OF ITS STATEMENTS TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS UNTIL THE STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE POLISH AUTHORITIES. THE CORRESPONDENT ADDED THAT HE EXPECTS NO ACTIVITY FROM THE WDC BEFORE AUGUST 20. WDC MEMBER ANNA KOWALSKA IS OFFICIALLY THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE UNTIL THEN, BUT MOST IMPORTANT COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INCLUDING KURON AND HALINA MIKOLAJSKA, HAVE GONE ON VACATION.

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